

24304

Virginia Barthel

(_____)

Feb 20, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you, Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

Share your own thoughts with the SC Public Service Commission:

We recently moved to South Carolina after living in many states. The electricity costs here are the highest we have ever paid and regardless of the cost saving initiatives I've implemented, the bill is still incredibly high. This recent increase will only serve to exacerbate an already bad problem. This is of even greater concern for those on limited or fixed income. This has got to stop!

Sincerely,
Virginia Barthel

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MAR 11 2019

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